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EXAMINER

PIZIALI, JEFFREY J

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2673

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/090,355

Applicant(s)

KREMPL, STEPHEN F.

Examiner

Jeff Piziali

Art Unit

2673

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 01 March 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 01 March 2002 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Drawings

1. The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5) because they do not include the following reference signs mentioned in the description: 302, 306, and 308 (see Fig. 4; Page 14, Lines 16-17). A proposed drawing correction or corrected drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) and the Intellectual Property and High Technology Technical Amendments Act of 2002 do not apply when the reference is a U.S. patent resulting directly or indirectly from an international application filed before November 29, 2000. Therefore, the prior art date of the reference is determined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).


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3. Claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Ludtke et al. (US 6501441).

Regarding claim 1, Ludtke discloses a system for presenting information onto a plurality of display screens [Fig. 2; 24-40], the system comprising: a computing system [Figs. 2 & 3; 22] which receives information [Fig. 2; 20] for presentation (see Column 8, Line 7 - Column 9, Line 40), the computing system formatting the information into a plurality of data packets (see Figs. 12-14), each data packet indicating a final destination designated from the received information (see Column 17, Line 59 - Column 18, Line 47); a switch box [Fig. 3; 74] communicating with the computing system, the switch box receiving [Fig. 10; 304] a plurality of data packets sent from the computing system and determining [Fig. 10; 308] a destination of each data packet; and a plurality of display screens providing a display of information inputted into the computing system, the plurality of display screens communicating with the switch box; whereby the switch box, upon determining the destination of each data packet, sends [Fig. 10; 320] the data packet to the designated display screen (see Column 15, Line 19 - Column 16, Line 53).

Regarding claim 2, Ludtke discloses each display screen includes a projection unit projecting a visual display onto the display screen (see Column 2, Lines 51-62).

Regarding claim 3, Ludtke discloses the plurality of display screens include three display screens [Fig. 2; 24, 26, and 28], each display screen providing a visual display of the inputted information (see Column 8, Line 7 - Column 9, Line 40).



Regarding claim 4, Ludtke discloses the switch box includes a separation module for dividing [Fig. 10; 310] the plurality of data packets into arrays based on a designated display screen destination (see Column 15, Line 19 - Column 16, Line 53).

Regarding claim 5, Ludtke discloses the switch box includes a diversion module for determining [Fig. 10; 320] a display screen destination for each data packet received from the computing system (see Column 15, Line 19 - Column 16, Line 53).

Regarding claim 6, Ludtke discloses the switch box is located within the computing system (see Fig. 3).

Regarding claim 7, Ludtke discloses a remote device [Fig. 2; 88 & 99] for operating the computing system (see Column 9, Lines 14-23).

Regarding claim 8, Ludtke discloses the remote device includes means for presenting images provided from drawings inputted by an operator on the remote device (see Fig. 2; Column 9, Lines 14-23).

Regarding claim 9, Ludtke discloses the plurality of display screens includes audio devices for emitting audio signals (see Column 23, Lines 1-8).

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Regarding claim 10, this claim is rejected by the reasoning applied in the above rejection of claim 9; furthermore, Ludtke discloses a plurality of audio devices for emitting audio signals (see Column 23, Lines 1-8).

Regarding claim 11, Ludtke discloses an electronic device [Fig. 2; 20] providing visual data to the plurality of display screens (see Column 8, Lines 35-40).

Regarding claim 12, Ludtke discloses the electronic device is a video cassette recorder (see Column 8, Lines 35-40).

Regarding claim 13, Ludtke discloses the electronic device is a digital video disc player (see Column 8, Lines 35-40).

Regarding claim 14, Ludtke discloses the switch box includes means for converting [Fig. 10; 312] the plurality of data packets into image signals readable by the plurality of projection units (see Column 15, Line 19 - Column 16, Line 53).

Regarding claim 15, Ludtke discloses the means for converting the plurality of data is at least one video card (see Column 8, Line 50 - Column 9, Line 4).

Regarding claim 16, Ludtke discloses the computing system includes means for converting [Fig. 10; 312] selected data packets into image signals readable by a designated projection unit (see Column 15, Line 19 - Column 16, Line 53).

Regarding claim 17, this claim is rejected by the reasoning applied in the above rejection of claims 1, 7, and 8; furthermore Ludtke discloses a method of presenting information onto a plurality of display screens [Fig. 2; 24-40], the method comprising the steps of: inputting information [Fig. 2; 88 & 99], by an operator, into a computing system [Figs. 2 & 3; 22] for display to one of a plurality of display screens (see Column 8, Line 7 - Column 9, Line 40); formatting the inputted information, by the computing system, into a plurality of data packets (see Figs. 12-14), each data packet indicating a destination of one of the display screens (see Column 17, Line 59 - Column 18, Line 47); sending [Fig. 10; 304], by the computing system, the plurality of data packets to a switch box [Fig. 3; 74]; determining [Fig. 10; 320], by the switch box, a destination for the plurality of data packets to one of the plurality of display screens; sending, by the switch box, the plurality of data packets to each determined destination from the plurality of display screens; and displaying, by the determined display screen, the data packets to an audience (see Column 15, Line 19 - Column 16, Line 53).

Regarding claim 18, Ludtke discloses providing [Fig. 10; 308] an identification tag for each data packet to indicate a destination to one of the display screens (see Column 15, Line 19 - Column 16, Line 53).

Regarding claim 19, this claim is rejected by the reasoning applied in the above rejection of claim 4; furthermore Ludtke discloses separating [Fig. 10; 310] each data packet into a array based on a destination display screen (see Column 15, Line 19 - Column 16, Line 53).

Regarding claim 20, this claim is rejected by the reasoning applied in the above rejection of claims 1, 4, and 5; furthermore Ludtke discloses a system for presenting information onto a plurality of display screens [Fig. 2; 24-40], the system comprising: a computing system [Figs. 2 & 3; 22] which receives information [Fig. 2; 20] for presentation (see Column 8, Line 7 - Column 9, Line 40), the computing system formatting the information into a plurality of data packets (see Figs. 12-14), each data packet indicating a final destination designated from the received information (see Column 17, Line 59 - Column 18, Line 47); a switch box [Fig. 3; 74] communicating with the computing system, the switch box receiving [Fig. 10; 304] a plurality of data packets sent from the computing system and determining [Fig. 10; 308] a destination of each data packet, the switch box including: a separation module for dividing [Fig. 10; 310] data packets into groups based on a designated destination; and a diversion module for determining [Fig. 10; 320] the designated destination for each data packet received from the computing system; and a plurality of display screens for displaying information inputted into the computing system, the plurality of display screens communicating with the switch box; whereby the switch box, upon determining the destination of each data packet, sends the data packet to the designated display screen (see Column 15, Line 19 - Column 16, Line 53).

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Conclusion

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Dye (US 4,965,559), Singhal et al. (US 5,488,385), Chee (US 5,694,141), Knox et al. (US 6,323,854), Shirley (US 6,378,014), Ludtke et al. (US 6,593,937), and Lyons et al. (US 6,628,243) are cited to further evidence the state of the art pertaining to systems for presenting information onto a plurality of display screens.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jeff Piziali whose telephone number is (703) 305-8382. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday (6:30AM - 3PM).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Bipin Shalwala can be reached on (703) 305-4938. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



J.P.

1 March 2004



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